

FLUBYTES



SEPTEMBER 21, 2012

Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933

USE OF LAIV IN HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL

In response to questions regarding infection control precautions and restrictions on the use of Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV) in Health Care Personnel (HCP) the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) published a [guidance document](#). In summary, SHEA endorses:

- the use of LAIV as an alternative to the inactivated flu vaccine - particularly for those who avoid an annual flu vaccination because of fear of needle injections.
- the restriction of LAIV from those HCP who, in the week following vaccination, have frequent contact with patients who reside in a protective environment (eg, in a bone marrow transplantation unit), but it notes that this recommendation is made as a result of an abundance of caution and a desire to err on the side of patient safety.

FLU VACCINES AND EGG ALLERGIES

This week the Immunization Action Coalition posted a new resource, "[Influenza Vaccination of People with a History of Egg Allergy](#)."

WORKPLACE FLU VACCINATION

This week the CDC updated its information for businesses to use to help prevent seasonal flu, including a new toolkit, "[Make It Your Business to Fight the Flu: A Toolkit for Businesses and Employers](#)" which contains a checklist, flyers, and additional information. The CDC's Web site for seasonal flu prevention in the workplace also includes links to a podcast, information on the flu vaccine, and other materials.

FLU ANTIBODIES

Scientists report that they have mapped the structure of a human antibody that zeroes in on the precise part of the flu virus's hemagglutinin protein that latches onto host cells. This finding could lead to new flu treatments and a broadly protective flu vaccine.

- [Antibody Discovery Could Put Universal Flu Vaccine On The Horizon](#)

INFLUENZA NEWS ARTICLES

- Michigan: [Get the shot, not the flu](#)
- [Army ready with vaccine for flu season](#)
- [Flu vaccination blitz will target 10,000 health care workers](#)
- [March Of Dimes Urges Pregnant Women To Get A Flu Shot](#)

VARIANT INFLUENZA CASES

Situation Update available [here](#).

A new CDC video podcast intended for fairgoers and swine exhibitors provides CDC recommendations for reducing the risk of infection with H3N2v flu viruses. The video features Dr. Lyn Finelli and is available for viewing [here](#).

Journal Articles

This week researchers from the CDC [reported](#) that rapid flu tests often used in clinical settings have limited ability to detect variant influenza A viruses that are circulating in pigs and infecting humans.

- [Genomic reassortment of influenza A virus in North American swine, 1998-2011](#)

AVIAN Influenza

- [China and Vietnam battle H5N1 outbreaks](#)

UPCOMING INFLUENZA WEBINARS

National Foundation for Infectious Disease (NFID)

The [annual Influenza/Pneumococcal NFID News](#)

Conference will be on September 27, 2012 from 10-11AM.

Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)

Also on September 27, [COCA will be hosting](#) a call on Influenza Prevention and Control for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs from 2-3pm.

Families Fighting Flu - October 2, 2012 12:00-1:00PM

This webinar, "[New Information to Protect Yourself & Your Family From Flu This Season](#)" features Dr. William Schaffner and Jennifer Lastinger, a parent and Families Fighting Flu board member.

FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: www.michigan.gov/flu

CDC: www.cdc.gov/flu

HHS: www.flu.gov

HealthMap Vaccine Finder

The [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) is now available to promote flu and other adult vaccinations to the public.

Partner Updates: *MSHP Monitor*, a publication of the Michigan Society of Health-System Pharmacists, recently published an article on the Michigan Care Improvement Registry, [Promoting Others Through MCIR](#).

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